

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00  
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 /036 W  
-----062325 281843Z /46

R 281239Z FEB 78

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6252

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION USNATO

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 03618

BRUSSELS FOR FAA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, PGOV, WB, FR, GW, UK

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: AIR ALSACE FARES ON BERLIN-SAARBRUECKEN  
ROUTE

REF: A. BONN 461, B. BONN 584

1. ALLIED CAA'S MET ON FEBRUARY 25 WITH VON MENTZINGEN  
AND HELD, FOREIGN OFFICE OFFICIALS RESPONSIBLE FOR  
AVIATION MATTERS TO DISCUSS AIR ALSACE FILING FOR ITS  
PROPOSED BERLIN-SAARBRUECKEN SERVICE. THE AIRLINE IS  
ASKING FOR 12 PERCENT HIGHER FARES THAN THOSE ON OTHER  
IGS ROUTES.

2. THE FRENCH CAA SPOKE IN FAVOR OF THE FARE FILING,  
WHILE THE UK AND US CAA'S RESERVED THEIR POSITIONS  
BUT POINTED OUT THAT THERE IS A LONG STANDING POLICY OF  
UNIFORM FARES FOR IGS SERVICES, THAT IT IS PROBABLY  
TRUE THAT IF THIS ROUTE IS TO HAVE JET SERVICE IT MUST  
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BE AT THE HIGH COST BUT THAT A TURBO PROP (E.G. AN  
F-27) WOULD BE MUCH LESS EXPENSIVE AND WOULD ONLY BE A  
LITTLE SLOWER, GIVEN THE FACT THAT CORRIDOR RESTRICTIONS  
PREVENT JETS FROM PERFORMING AT MAXIMUM EFFICIENCY,  
THAT THE ROUTE APPEARS MARGINAL IN THE BEST OF CIRCUM-  
STANCES, AND THAT IF A HIGH COST OPERATION IS TO BE  
APPROVED, THERE IS A QUESTION OF WHETHER IT IS FAIR TO

EXPECT THE BERLIN TRAVELER TO CARRY PART OF THE EXTRA  
COST VIS-A-VIS A MORE MODEST SERVICE.

3. VON MENTZINGEN SAID THAT THE MATTER WOULD HAVE TO  
BE DISCUSSED AMONG THE INTERESTED OFFICES IN THE  
FEDERAL LAND AND BERLIN GOVERNMENTS AND PROBABLY  
"POLITICIANS" AS WELL. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WAS IN  
FAVOR OF HAVING THE SERVICE AND WOULD DO ANYTHING IT  
COULD TO OVERCOME THE PROBLEM AND BRING IT ABOUT.  
HOWEVER, HE SAW THE POSSIBILITY OF VERY SERIOUS PROBLEMS.  
IF AIR ALSACE WERE GRANTED A HIGHER FARE, IT WAS LIKELY  
THAT THE OTHER IGS CARRIERS WOULD ASK FOR HIGHER FARES.  
HELD POINTED OUT THAT THIS MIGHT NEGATE THE AGREEMENT  
OF LAST FALL THAT THERE WOULD BE NO FURTHER FARE IN-  
CREASES UNTIL APRIL 1979 UNLESS THERE WERE A SIGNIFICANT  
CHANGE IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES OBTAINING AT THE TIME OF THE  
AGREEMENT. VON MENTZINGEN REMARKED THAT IF THE SAAR-  
LAND GOVERNMENT INSISTED ON JET SERVICE, IT MIGHT HAVE  
TO INCREASE ITS SUBSIDY TO AIR ALSACE TO COVER THE  
EXTRA COST.

4. AIR ALSACE JUSTIFICATION OF ITS FARE REQUEST AND  
EMBASSY'S VIEWS ON PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN THIS QUESTION  
ARE REPORTED SEPTELS.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AIR FARES, AIR ROUTES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Enclosure:** DG ALTERED  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 BONN 461, 78 BONN 584  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 24 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Subject:** CIVAIR: AIR ALSACE FARES ON BERLIN-SAARBRUECKEN ROUTE  
**TAGS:** EAIR, PGOV, WB, FR, GE, UK, AIR ALSACE  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014